

IN THE CLAIMS

For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims of the present Application are shown below whether or not an amendment has been made.

1. (Previously Presented) A system for accessing a subterranean zone from the surface, comprising:

a well bore extending from the surface to the subterranean zone; and

a well bore pattern connected to the junction and operable to drain fluid from a region of the subterranean zone to the junction.

2. (Previously Presented) A system for accessing a coal seam from the surface, comprising:

a first well bore extending from the surface to the coal seam; and

a second well bore extending from the surface to the coal seam, the second well bore operable to drain fluid from the coal seam to the first well bore for production to the surface

3. (Previously Presented) A method for accessing a subterranean zone from the surface, comprising:

forming a first well bore extending from the surface to the subterranean zone;

forming a second well bore extending from the surface to the subterranean zone; and

forming a well bore pattern connected to the second well bore and providing drainage of fluids, by the second well bore, from the subterranean zone to the first well bore for production to the surface.

4. (Previously Presented) A method for accessing a subterranean zone from the surface, comprising:

drilling a substantially vertical well bore from the surface to the subterranean zone;  
and

drilling an articulated well bore from the surface to the subterranean zone, the articulated well bore horizontally offset from the substantially vertical well bore at the surface and operable to drain fluid from the subterranean zone to the first well bore for production to the surface.

5. (Previously Presented) A method for accessing a subterranean zone from the surface, comprising:

forming a first well bore extending from the surface to the subterranean zone;  
forming a second well bore from the surface to the subterranean zone;  
forming a well bore pattern connected to the second well bore;  
draining fluid from the well bore pattern to the second well bore; and  
collecting the drained fluid from the first well bore for production to the surface.

6. (New) A system for production of gas from a coal seam to a surface, comprising:

a well system extending from the surface to the coal seam;  
the well system including a horizontal drainage bore;  
production equipment installed in the well system;  
the production equipment operable to produce water collected in the horizontal drainage bore from the coal seam to the surface while maintaining a level of the water in the well system below a top of the coal seam; and

whereby gas collected in the horizontal drainage bore from the coal seam may be produced to the surface.

7. (New) The system of Claim 6, wherein the production equipment comprises a pump.

8. (New) The system of Claim 7, wherein the pump comprises a rod pump.
9. (New) The system of Claim 7, wherein the pump comprises an inlet positioned in the horizontal drainage bore.
10. (New) The system of Claim 7, wherein the pump comprises an inlet positioned in the well system below the horizontal drainage bore.
11. (New) The system of Claim 7, wherein the pump comprises an inlet positioned in the well system below the top of the coal seam.
12. (New) The system of Claim 7, wherein the pump comprises an inlet positioned in the coal seam.
13. (New) The system of Claim 6, wherein the production equipment is operable to maintain a level of the water in the well system below a top of the horizontal drainage bore.

14. (New) A system for production of gas from a coal seam to a surface, comprising:

a well system extending from the surface to the coal seam;

the well system including a horizontal drainage bore;

a pump installed in the well system and operable to produce water collected in the horizontal drainage bore from the coal seam to the surface;

the pump comprising an inlet positioned in the well system below a top of the coal seam; and

whereby gas collected in the horizontal drainage bore from the coal seam may be produced to the surface.

15. (New) The system of Claim 14, wherein the pump comprises a rod pump.

16. (New) The system of Claim 14, wherein the pump inlet is positioned in the horizontal drainage bore.

17. (New) The system of Claim 14, wherein the pump inlet is positioned in the well system below the horizontal drainage bore.

18. (New) The system of Claim 14, wherein the pump inlet is positioned in the coal seam.

19. (New) The system of Claim 14, wherein the pump is operable to maintain a level of the water in the well system below a top of the coal seam

20. (New) The system of Claim 14, wherein the pump is operable to maintain a level of the water in the well system below a top of the horizontal drainage bore.